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C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 003078

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EUR/SE, NEA/NGA, PMAT. JCS FOR J5. EUCOM FOR J5,  
AND POLAD. CENTCOM FOR J5 AND POLAD;

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/19/2013

TAGS: [PREL](#) [MARR](#) [MOPS](#) [TU](#) [IZ](#)

SUBJECT: IRAQ: TURKISH DELEGATION TO TRAVEL TO IRAQ TO  
MEET WITH KDP/PUK, TURKMEN

REF: ANKARA 2982

(U) Classified by Acting Deputy Chief of Mission Scot  
Marciel. Reasons: 1.5 (B and D).

1. (C) MFA Deputy Director General for Middle East Affairs  
Safak Gokturk informed us May 12 that Turkey intends to send  
a three-person "specialized" team to northern Iraq (Mosul,  
Irbil and Kirkuk) to meet with KDP, PUK and Turkmen  
leadership. The team is planning to fly from Ankara (via  
Turkish Airlines) to either Diyarbakir or Mardin (plans still  
being coordinated) and cross the Habur Gate (via ground  
transportation) into northern Iraq May 14 in the morning  
(Ankara time). The MFA already has informed Ankara-based KDP  
and PUK reps, and asked if Barzani and Talabani would be  
available. Gokturk said the team also intends to travel to  
Baghdad to meet with newly arrived TU embassy staff.

2. (C) The team consists of:

--AMB Selim Karaosmanoglu: MFA Director General for the  
Balkans. MFA's "political coordinator for Iraq." Formerly  
Turkey's ambassador to Iraq before Mehmet Akat (who served  
before current Amb. Osman Paksut).

--AMB Ecvet Tezcan: MFA Director General for Intelligence  
and Research (INR). Former TU Amb. in Baku and DDG for INR  
(when INR had the lead for northern Iraq issues).

--Kerim Uras: MFA Department Head for Iraq.

3. (C) Gokturk asked us to convey this information to US  
military authorities in Iraq. He promised to provide  
additional details (e.g. automobile license plates,  
personnel, equipment, etc.) as the MFA had done when Turkish  
Amb. Paksut's group crossed Habur Gate last week (reftel).  
PEARSON